Figures regarding the quantities actually moved are not available.

"(i) & (j) In respect of redgram such representations were received from the merchants in Kistna district. The Collector of Kistna however represented that there were not sufficient stocks in his district and in fact wanted that an allotment of 600 tons made from his district to the deficit districts should be cancelled. The Board of Revenue (Civil Supplies) did not agree with him in view of the fact that the Collector would not have taken the redgram stocks available with ryots into account in assessing the surplus and directed him to arrange for the movement of the quantity to the districts expeditiously. As regards blackgram and greengram there were no such complaints.

"(k) The ceiling price for blackgram in Kistna district before 1st October 1947 was Rs. 14 per maund at village site. The revised price is Rs. 15-8-0. All the Collectors have been instructed to enforce the ceiling prices fixed and to penalize by cancellation or suspension of licence of all those who violate the ceilings under the Madras Foodgrains Control Order. It is not known how the Producers' *cum* Consumers' Co-operative Societies of Masulipatam, Gudivada and Mudunooru in Kistna district transacted at rates higher than the ceilings fixed by the Government.

"(l) No. The Government do not propose to take such a step. The Collector of Kistna has, however, been instructed to fix the export price by adding to the village-site ceiling price charges for transport, incidentals and profit."

Selection of newspapers and periodicals for Government advertisements.

* *Q.* 143.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) the considerations which influence Government in selecting newspapers and periodicals for giving Government advertisements;

(b) the authority competent to give these advertisements;

(c) the names of newspapers and periodicals which are now in receipt of these advertisements; and

(d) whether the list is subject to revision and if so how often and who the authority competent to revise the list is?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"(a) Wide publicity and rates of advertisement are the chief criteria for selecting newspapers for publishing Government advertisements.

"(b) The Departments of Secretariat, Heads of Departments and other officers concerned are competent to give advertisements.

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" (c) A list[a] of newspapers suitable for Government advertisements is laid on the table of the House.

" (d) The list is revised by Government as and when it is considered necessary."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" May I know, Sir, why in certain daily newspapers of the City of Madras, certain Government advertisements appear, and in the case of other newspapers they do not, in spite of the fact that their circulation is better than the circulation of the papers which receive advertisements? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" As I have already stated, a list of newspapers which Government consider suitable for advertisements has been furnished to the heads of departments, and they are asked to select the papers for giving their advertisements."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" May I know, then, Sir, whether the head of a department, who is authorized to exercise his discretion, can give advertisement to a paper the circulation of which is poor? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" If the hon. Member would bring to the notice of Government that there is a wrong exercise of this discretion by any head of the department, Government will take up the matter."

SRI S. B. ADITYAN :—" Is it a fact, Sir, that the Madras Government are employing a European agency for placing advertisements in Madras newspapers? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" Notice, Sir."

Publication of the Hindi journal by the Department of Information.

* 144 *Q.*—SRI S. B. ADITYAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have decided to cease publication of the Hindi journal issued by the Department of Information ;

(b) if so, the posts in the department, which have thereby become suplus and the amount of saving effected in annual expenditure ;

(c) whether the Government propose to effect further economies by stopping the other journals published by the department ;

(d) what are the journals at present issued by the department and their paid circulations ;

(e) what efforts were made to increase the paid circulation of these journals; and

(f) with what result?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" (a) The Government decided to discontinue the Hindustani edition of

[a] Printed as Appendix I on pages 816–817 infra.